

# cub membership



# Welcome to Cubs!

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You may have been waiting a long time to join the Cubs. At last the great day has arrived and you have been to your first Pack meeting. You will be glad you decided to be a Cub. Like all children you enjoy playing games, having fun, and learning all sorts of interesting things. You have joined the right group. A great adventure is coming your way.



Here are other reasons for being glad you're a Cub...

You may have heard about all the activities, expeditions and competitions Cubs take part in. Your leaders are trained for this and spend much time planning your meetings to make them fun. You will have the challenge of earning your [ADVANCEMENT BADGES](#) which are called the [SILVER WOLF](#) and the [GOLD WOLF](#). There are [INTEREST BADGES](#) you can earn too, for swimming, model-making, caring for animals, first aid, and many different activities. You will have the chance to go on outings, to play games, make things, act in plays and sing.

When you are 8 years old you will be allowed to go camping with the Cubs, and finally when you are 11 you will advance to the Scout Troop. We wish you luck on this adventurous trail.

The leader in charge of your Pack is called **Akela**. Other leaders (called Scouters) have names like Baloo and Bagheera. You will read about these names and hear about them when you are told the first story from Rudyard Kipling's Jungle Book.

Apart from your weekly Pack meetings, there may be special meetings or outdoor activities over weekends. Sometimes this will be with Cubs from other Packs, or with the Scouts, or with your parents. Try not to miss out on any of the fun.

Now here are some of the things you will need to know to help you settle easily into the pack and plan what you are going to do in Cubs over the next couple of years.

## Pack Calls

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Akela has special calls which all Cubs understand.

If Akela calls "PACK" just once, stop whatever you are doing, stand still, and listen. "PACK" means silence.

When Akela calls "PACK, PACK, PACK", all the Cubs run and join hands to form a parade circle calling "PA-A-A-C-K". Stand still and listen for further instructions.



"PACK ALERT" means stand with your hands at your sides and your feet together. No talking, please!

"PACK AT EASE" means stand with your feet apart and hands behind your back. Stand still and do not speak. This is more comfortable than being at the alert.



## Pathway through Cubs

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Everyone who joins Cubs must first complete all the requirements for the [MEMBERSHIP badge](#). Then you can wear the Cub uniform and the special badge which Cubs, Scouts and leaders all over the world wear on their left pocket.

After that you will work on your Silver Wolf and Gold Wolf and once you are 10 years old you can work towards earning your Leaping Wolf. You will also have the opportunity to earn different [INTEREST BADGES](#). There are many to choose from, according to your own interest.

Before going up to the Troop when you are 11 years old, you will work on your Link Badge.

### Silver Wolf (7 – 8-year-old Cubs)

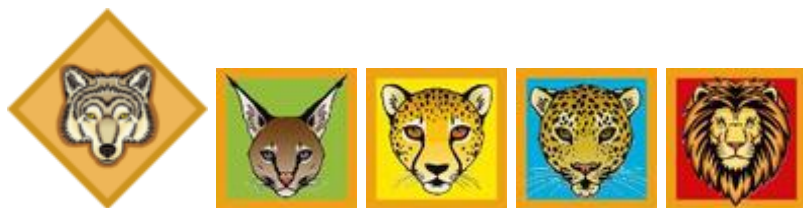
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Along the way to the Silver Wolf you will earn four badges: the Awareness Challenge (Green Paw), Community Challenge (Yellow Paw), Outdoor Challenge (Blue Paw), and Aptitude Challenge (Red Paw), plus the Promise and Law Challenge. [Silver Wolf Challenge Badge](#)

### Gold Wolf (9 – 10-year-old Cubs)

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After your Silver Wolf, you will work towards your **Gold Wolf** badge. Again, you will earn four challenge badges along the way: Awareness Challenge (Caracal), Community Challenge (Cheetah), Outdoor Challenge (Leopard) and Aptitude Challenge (Lion), plus the Promise and Law Challenge. [Gold Wolf Challenge Badge](#)

### Leaping Wolf (10-year-old Cubs)

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Once you are 10, you are in your final year at Cubs, and you can work towards your **Leaping Wolf** badge, which is the highest award a Cub can earn. [Leaping Wolf Badge](#)

### Link Badge

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Finally, when you are turning 11 and ready to go up to the Scout Troop, you will meet the Troop Scouter and the Scouts, and work on your **Link Badge**. This tells others that you have been a Cub and are now going up to the Scout Troop where you will continue your journey as a Scout. [Link Badge](#)

# Cub Membership

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When you join the Cub Pack, you must first complete all the requirements for the **Cub Membership** badge. Then you can be [invested](#), which means you can wear the Cub uniform and scarf and the special badge which Cubs, Scouts and leaders all over the world wear on their left pocket.

1. Know and practise the Cub Law.
2. Know and practise the Cub Promise
3. Know the Cub Motto
4. Demonstrate the left handshake and know when it is used.
5. Demonstrate the Cub Salute and know when it is used.
6. Do the Grand Howl and know when it is used.
7. Have heard the story of Lord Baden-Powell and How Cubbing started.
8. Know the story of Mowgli's Brothers.

Once you have completed all of these, you are ready for a special ceremony where you will be invested as a Cub and become a member of the world-wide Scout movement by making your Cub Promise in front of Akela and the Pack.

## 1. The Cub Law

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The **Cub Law** is:

"The Cub gives in to the Old Wolf  
The Cub does not give in to him- or herself."

### Explanation

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From the story of [Mowgli](#), you will learn that the young cubs obey the older wolves. In the jungle there may be several young wolf cubs, playing and tumbling over each other. One of them may wander off in search of adventure. The mother wolf, who has been lying nearby with her head resting on her forepaws will raise her head suddenly and stare hard at the wanderer. He will stop immediately and look at her, and in an instant come trotting back. Nothing is said, but the smart young cub understands what is wanted of him and does it at once. This is obedience – giving in to the Old Wolf.



This is what human Cubs should do too – understand what is wanted of them and do it without waiting to be told. Cubs should always obey, whether or not their mother, father, teacher or Akela are there to see them. Older people know better because they have seen more and done more. They know what is right and try to keep you from harm by telling you the right way to behave and how to do tasks. So anyone you know who is older than you are, or is in charge of you, is an Old Wolf.

When a young wolf is hunting a hare for food, he may get tired and want to stop, but he does not give in. He keeps after it and soon finds that the hare is just as tired – so he gets his dinner. Maybe you will start to do something which turns out to be much harder than you thought it would be. You may want to stop, but don't give in to yourself. Instead, keep on trying and DO YOUR BEST. A Cub is also giving in when he cheats, steals, lies, bullies, loses his temper, or is greedy. Surely you do not want to be like this?

## 2. The Cub Promise

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**"I promise to do my best –  
To do my duty to God and my country;  
To keep the Law of the Wolf Cub Pack  
And to do a good turn to somebody every day."**

In order to understand the Promise properly, it is perhaps better if we look at it step by step.

**I PROMISE:** When you say "I promise:" it means that you will do your best to do whatever you said you would do. When you make your Cub Promise it is for all the time – at home, at school, at play – not only when you are in uniform. There is no need for your mother or father or Akela, to check whether you are keeping your promise.

**TO DO MY BEST:** This means that you must try very hard, and be sure that what you do is truly your very best.

**TO DO MY DUTY TO GOD:** God will help you to do your duty to Him. When you remember Him, it will help you to do the right thing. Remember, too, what God has made – trees, flowers and animals of all kinds. A Cub takes care of God's creation. Thank God for everything you enjoy, thank Him at your place of worship and whenever you have a moment by yourself. God wants you to help others. Helping others, without thought for yourself, is part of your duty to God.

**AND MY COUNTRY:** Just as the wolves obey Akela, so the people of our country obey our leaders. Our country has laws for people to live by. A Cub is careful not to make fires which will burn the veld or trees. A Cub does not damage or hurt plants, animals or any wild thing. A Cub shows respect for flags and national anthems and does all they can to be a good citizen.

**TO KEEP THE LAW OF THE WOLF CUB PACK:** Every game has rules the players must follow, and in Cubs we have two rules. When you follow them you are keeping the Cub Law.

**AND TO DO A GOOD TURN TO SOMEBODY EVERY DAY:** A Cub does not only think of himself. A Cub is always looking for ways to help others, especially those at home. Cubs do their fair share of work and are cheerful while doing it. Cubs accept no reward because they WANT to make others happy. Be alert for a chance to help others by doing little jobs like carrying a parcel, or picking up rubbish. There are many things you can do to keep this part of your Promise.



## 3. The Cub Motto

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**"Do Your Best"**

Show that you are doing your very best by trying hard when you do the Cub activities and when you earn badges. See how quickly you obey Akela's call or "PACK".



## 4. The Left handshake

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When you shake hands with another Cub, Scout, Rover, your Pack Scouters, Troop Scouters, or any members of the worldwide Scout movement, you shake hands with your left hand.

Many years ago, [Lord Baden-Powell](#) met an African chief who held out his left hand in greeting. The chief explained to B-P that warriors fought with spears and carried shields in their left hand for protection. If a warrior met a friend, however, he would not need his shield, and his left hand would be free. So if a man held out his left hand to you it showed that he trusted you and wanted to be friendly. This impressed B-P so much that he chose the special handshake for Cubs and Scouts.

## 5. The Cub Salute

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The salute is a special way of greeting a person. It is used when you greet Akela and other Scouters, and all the other Cubs and Scouts. You also use it when you make your [Cub Promise](#) and at [Grand Howl](#) and Flag Break.

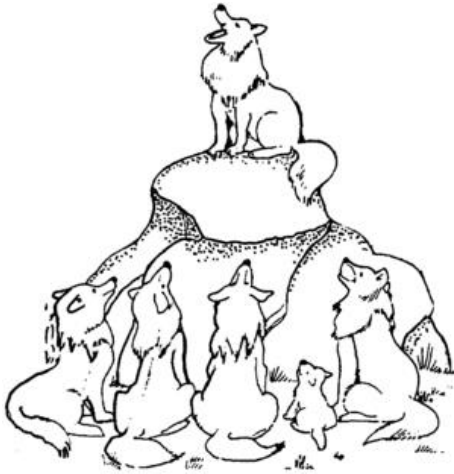
You salute with the forefinger and middle finger of your right hand. Your forefinger touches the side of the peak of your cap. The two fingers remind you of the two parts of the [Cub Law](#) you have promised to keep.



## 6. The Grand Howl

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In the Jungle on the night of the full moon, all the wolves in the pack creep into a circle around the council rock. In the middle of the rock crouches their leader, Akela – and the wolves throw up their heads and howl in welcome.



The Grand Howl is used to begin and end every Pack meeting. It is a greeting to Akela and says that every Cub will continue to do their best.

When Akela calls "PACK, PACK, PACK" all Cubs answer "P-A-A-A-C-K" and run to form a circle around Akela and the Council Rock. In one movement, they join hands and move outwards to form a parade circle.

As Akela steps on to the Council Rock, all the Cubs squat with their hands together, fingers pointing to the

ground and call:

"AH-KAY-LA,  
WE'LL DO OUR BEST!"

Then the Cubs jump up to the alert hands to their sides, and the duty sixer calls:

"CUBS,  
DO YOUR BEST"

The Cubs answer with a smart salute and  
reply:

"WE WILL  
DO OUR BEST"





## 7. How Cubbing started

Once there was a boy who loved to sleep out in a tent with his four brothers on weekends. They could climb trees, sail boats and they loved to play sports. When this boy grew up, he joined the army and became a Major General. His name was Robert Baden-Powell. He was a great hero in Mafeking from an attack which lasted 217 days. He had so few soldiers with him that he had to use boys to help with first aid, to carry messages and do other jobs. He was pleased to see that they could be relied on.

When Baden-Powell returned to England, he found that boys were reading the books he had written to help army scouts. So he took some boys camping on Brownsea Island where they tried out his ideas, and later wrote them a book of their own called *Scouting for Boys*.

There were lots of other boys who wanted to be Scouts too, but they were too young. Baden-Powell started a new branch for them and called them Wolf Cubs, using ideas he got from [The Jungle Book](#) by Rudyard Kipling. He wrote a book for the Cubs too, called *The Wolf Cub's Handbook*. Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell died in 1941 but each year on Founder's Day – his birthday, 22 February – we remember how he started the Scout Movement. Today, millions of boys and girls, in over 100 countries around the world are Scouts and Cubs.



## 8. Mowgli's Brothers



*"Mowgli's Brothers" is the first story about Mowgli in [The Jungle Book](#) by Rudyard Kipling. This yarn tells how Mowgli came to the wolves as a baby boy, how Shere Khan the tiger became his enemy, how he was accepted into the Seeonee wolf pack, and how Baloo and Bagheera became his teachers.*

It was a warm summer night when Tabaqui, the jackal – the mean, sly, mischief-maker – crept to the cave of Mother and Father Wolf. "Shere Khan, the big one, has shifted his hunting grounds. He will hunt among these hills," he told them.

Father Wolf was upset because Shere Khan, the tiger, killed cattle and angered the villagers, bringing trouble to the jungle. As they listened, they heard the angry, snarly whine of the tiger. "He is hunting man!" said Mother Wolf. "Listen! Something is coming!"

Father Wolf crouched – then halted in mid-spring. "Man!" he said, "a man's cub. Look!" His jaws closed gently over the little boy's back and he carried him into the cave and placed him amongst the other cubs. Then a dark shadow crossed the doorway.

"The man cub is mine, give him to me!" Shere Khan's roar filled the cave. But Mother Wolf and Father Wolf were not to be ordered around by somebody not from the pack. So Shere Khan slunk away.

"I will call him Mowgli (the Frog)" said Raksha, the Mother Wolf, "because his skin is smooth and without hair, like a frog's."

So Mowgli stayed with Raksha and Father Wolf and their own four cubs. When they were old enough to run a little, they set off on the night of the full moon, through the jungle to the Council Circle. There they found Akela sitting on the Council Rock with all the wolves in the pack gathered around. The cubs that had been born that month, and Mowgli, were in the centre of the circle, and all the wolves looked over these young cubs so that they would know them if they met in the Jungle.

Then Shere Khan roared from the trees, "What have the Free People to do with a man cub in the pack?" Akela, the pack leader, reminded the wolves that if there was an argument about a cub, two people would have to speak for him. So Baloo, the brown bear, stood up and said, "I will speak for the man cub."

Then a black shadow dropped from the trees. It was the mighty hunter, Bagheera, the panther. "I have a bull, newly killed, to pay for the man cub's life," he said. So Mowgli was allowed to stay. He learned the laws of the jungle from Baloo, and how to creep and stalk and hunt from Bagheera. That is how he was accepted as a member of the pack.